



OCT 1 1971

Reprinted from PROCEEDINGS OF THE HELMINTHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON  
Vol. 38, No. 1, January 1971  
p. 135-138  
*Made in United States of America*

### Description of a Plesiotype Male for *Anomyctus xenurus* Allen, 1940 (Nematoda: Aphelenchoididae)

During a study on the systematics of the nematode superfamily Aphelenchoidea (Nickle, 1970, J. Nematol., in press), the author received

from Professor M. W. Allen a single male specimen of *Anomyctus xenurus* Allen, 1940. This is the only male specimen of the species

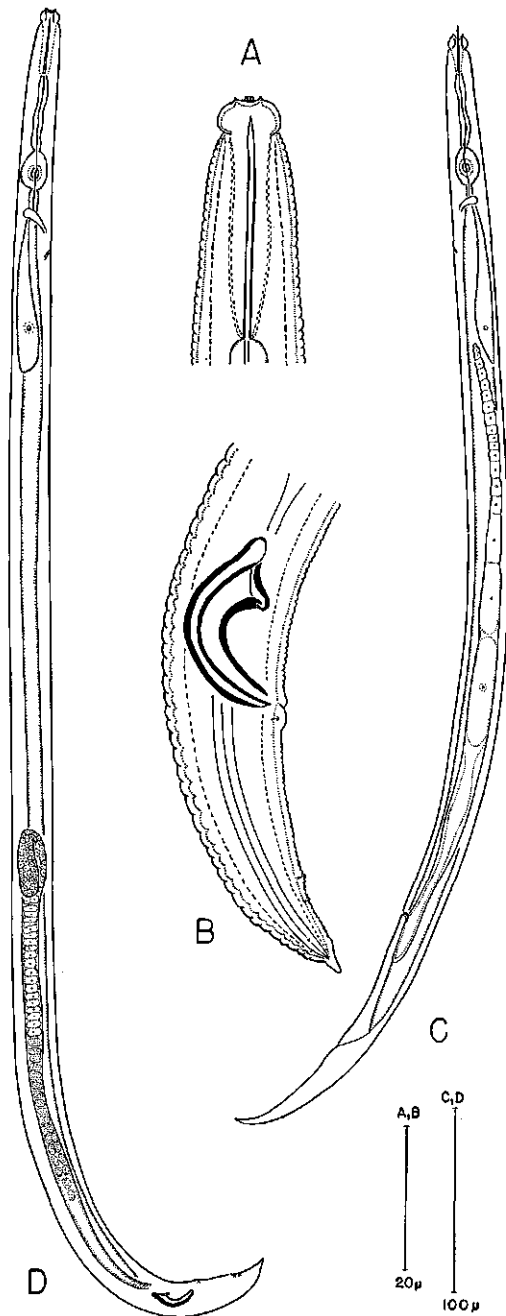


Figure 1. *Anomyctus xenurus*. A. Anterior end of male. B. Male tail, lateral view. C. Full body of female, lateral view. D. Full body of male, lateral view.

collected to date in the world, though female specimens have been collected in Utah and California, USA and Suffolk, England. Specimens collected at the last locality were reported (Hooper and Cooke, 1967, *Nematologica* 13: 320-321) to be somewhat larger, and were considered conspecific with *A. xenurus*. The monotypic family Anomyctidae was proposed (Goodey, 1960, *Nematologica* 5: 111-126) for this species. The male, described here as a plesiotype, supplements the original work (Allen, 1940, *Proc. Helm. Soc. Wash.* 7: 96-98). With the knowledge of these additional male characters, the relationship of *Anomyctus* to other described aphelenchoid genera is more accurately understood.

#### Description of Male *Anomyctus xenurus* Allen, 1940

MALE (1): L = 0.790 mm; W = 0.022 mm; a = 36.2; b = 6.8; c = 18.4; Stylet L = 32.6  $\mu$ ; Spicule L = 23.6  $\mu$ ; Spicule W = 9.8  $\mu$ .

Rare. Cuticle strongly annulated. Lips offset by a deep constriction; shallow, sclerotized, saucer-like frontal disc present. Six small projections surround oral opening. Stylet linear, in two parts, without basal knobs. Testis short, with anterior flexure. Spicules very large, paired, not fused, similar to those of *Aphelenchoides*. Tail conical, with short terminal process, similar to that of female, with 3 pairs of caudal papillae; caudal alae and gubernaculum absent. Three lines in the lateral field.

BIONOMICS: Unknown, soil inhabiting.

PLESIOTYPE MALE: Collected by Professor M. W. Allen from soil around roots of desert plants at East Yuma Mesa, California on 19 January 1945. Deposited University of California Nematode Survey Collection, Davis, California.

Though the disc-like lip region and the linear stylet are useful in the diagnosis of this genus, the shape of the spicule, the type of esophagus, and the ecological relationships indicate that a separate family is not needed for this nematode.

WILLIAM R. NICKLE  
Nematologist  
Crops Research Division  
Agricultural Research Service  
U. S. Department of Agriculture  
Beltsville, Maryland 20705